



**Department of
Social Services**

Human Resources
Administration

Department of
Homeless Services

Steven Banks
Commissioner

**150 Greenwich Street
New York, NY 10007**

929 221 7315

October 5, 2021

Susan Stetzer
District Manager, Community Board 3
59 East 4th Street
New York, NY 10003

Dear Ms. Stetzer:

I am writing to provide you with notification regarding the planned opening of the following program:

Safe Haven: 47 Madison Street, Manhattan, NY

- Capacity/population: **49 Single Adults**
- Nonprofit service provider: **Catholic Charities Community Services Beacon Hope**
- Anticipated opening: **Fall 2023**

In 2016, the City launched HOME-STAT, the most comprehensive homeless outreach program in the nation, as part of our commitment to addressing unsheltered homelessness in New York City. As part of this citywide initiative, experienced outreach teams and not-for-profit service provider partners canvass the five boroughs 24/7/365 to identify and engage individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness, encourage them to accept services, and ultimately help them transition off the streets. Since the launch of HOME-STAT, through these efforts and unprecedented new investments, outreach teams have helped more than 4,200 unsheltered New Yorkers come off the streets and subways citywide into transitional programs and permanent housing.

New Yorkers experiencing unsheltered homelessness are our most uniquely challenging population to engage, and efforts to aid our unsheltered neighbors require persistent and compassionate outreach, including dedicated services, such as Safe Havens, which are tailored to support these New Yorkers' individual needs.

Safe Havens provide specialized services in small-scale transitional housing settings and are often the first step towards helping individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness accept services and transition off the streets. Safe Havens are equipped with on-site resources, including health and mental health services, and compassionate staff who work closely with these New Yorkers to build the trust and relationships needed to help them stabilize their lives. These facilities are a vital tool for outreach teams when engaging

unsheltered New Yorkers, providing a low-barrier housing option to a population that may not be ready for or may not be best served by more traditional transitional housing settings.

As part of our 24/7/365 outreach efforts, this Administration has continued to develop these specialized resources for helping unsheltered individuals come off the streets, quintupling the number of such specialized, dedicated beds citywide, from 600 in 2014 to more than 3,000 today. Through the use of this innovative and vital tool, and our continued round-the-clock outreach efforts, we've been able to help more than 4,200 unsheltered New Yorkers come off the streets and subways into transitional and permanent housing since the launch of the HOME-STAT initiative.

To that end, in service of these needs, Catholic Charities Community Services Beacon Hope, our non-profit social service provider partner, is in the process of opening a Safe Haven at 47 Madison Street that we anticipate will open in 2023. This Safe Haven facility will provide 49 individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness with the specialized services and supports they need and deserve to get back on their feet. At this location, priority placement will be offered to those individuals who have roots in the Chinatown-area and the broader borough of Manhattan.

Working in close coordination with HOME-STAT outreach teams, Catholic Charities Community Services Beacon Hope will provide these essential social services to help our vulnerable neighbors and fellow New Yorkers come off the streets and subways and regain their footing with dignity. We are confident that these New Yorkers will be warmly welcomed – and through collaborative support and compassion, we will make this the best experience it can be for all.

Catholic Charities Community Services Beacon Hope will reach out to you shortly to answer any outstanding questions or concerns. We look forward to further discussing this site with you and your constituents.

Thank you for your leadership and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "ERIN DRINKWATER", is placed on a light orange rectangular background.

Erin Drinkwater
Deputy Commissioner
Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs

